



## **Pittsburgh, PA, September 11, 2022**

The death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II is being mourned across the United Kingdom, the Commonwealth, the world and certainly here in Pittsburgh.

The deeply sad news of her passing came on Thursday, September 8, 2022, in the midst of our Eighth Annual Britsburgh Festival - a celebration that began in 2015 to mark the occasion of Queen Elizabeth II becoming the longest-reigning British monarch and the longest-reigning female monarch in world history. Only a few days ago, at the Right Royal Afternoon Tea, in the presence of Emma Wade-Smith OBE, Her Majesty's Trade Commissioner for North America and HM Consul General New York, the toast was "The Queen".

With the news from Balmoral Castle, Festival goers turned their thoughts to the memory of Her Majesty. We hope you have found a welcoming Britsburgh community in which to fondly remember The Queen.

As a boy, aged 8, I remember walking several miles from our home in the village of Nether Poppleton, near York, to the nearest main road, the A59, to wave our Union Jack flags as The Queen passed as we celebrated Her Silver Jubilee. Her Majesty and indeed the Royal Family have been a big part of my life and that of my parents. I never met her in person but my parents did. Thank you, Ma'am, for being a constant in our lives and your immeasurable dedication to public service. I will miss her greatly.

I would like to share Britsburgh's Official Statement on the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, along with thoughts from Britsburgh member, Len Barcoucky, retired reporter for the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette and warm memories from our Chair, Roger Cranville OBE.

I end with a quote from King Charles III first speech:

"May 'flights of Angels sing thee to thy rest.'" Hamlet

Robert Charlesworth  
Britsburgh Co-founder

**God Save The King**



## **Britsburgh Statement on the Passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II**

The Britsburgh Board of Directors is deeply saddened by the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Our deepest sympathy to all members of the Royal Family.

The Queen reigned for seventy years bringing her own unique style of leadership and stability to Great Britain and far beyond. The BBC announced the Queen's death in the following way:

[BBC Announcement Link.](#)

September 8, 2022, will be remembered as the day that the world lost a sage leader who met with 13 U.S. Presidents since WWII and worked with 15 Prime Ministers from Winston Churchill to very recently, Liz Truss.

Over the next few months Britsburgh will be both mourning the Queen's passing and celebrating her life and long reign.

**God Save The King**



## **Britsburgh Chairman Roger Cranville OBE Remembers Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II**

Thursday, September 8, 2022 will remain a very sad day for me. I was two years old when Princess Elizabeth became Queen and three at the time of the coronation. We had a parade in the village on a dreary, cold and wet day. After the parade we all went to the village hall for tea. All the children were dressed up for the occasion - I was Sir Len Hutton, the English cricket captain.

My most memorable memory was meeting the Queen in June 2003 at Buckingham Palace. The citation for the award I received on December 31st 2002, Officer of the Order of the British Empire, was "For services to British commercial interests in the USA." It was a day not to be forgotten. An Englishman does not talk about awards and accomplishments, but for some reason it seems OK to do so today. I am pleased and privileged to have been a part of the effort to make the Pittsburgh region and Pennsylvania more globally connected for 30 years and to have been in every imaginable position in the British-American Business Council, British-American Connections Pittsburgh and Britsburgh for 27 years. Not for 70 years, but for quite a while nevertheless! The end of a long era - and the beginning of a new era. I hope Britsburgh will continue to be a part of the rich tapestry of cultural life in the Pittsburgh region during the reign of King Charles III. Thank you to all of my friends and colleagues for your hard work and dedication.

Roger Cranville OBE  
Britsburgh Chair



Just before the start of Thursday night's performance of "The Comedie of Errors" at Hartwood Acres, Robert Charlesworth called for a moment of silence in remembrance of Queen Elizabeth II. Charlesworth is Co-founder of "Brittsburgh," a cultural organization that organizes year-round events and an annual festival that spotlights the long and deep connections between Pittsburgh and Great Britain.

The audience for Shakespeare's play was mostly a mix of native Britons and southwestern Pennsylvania Anglophiles.

With a reminder that national life goes on, Mr. Charlesworth ended the tribute to the late queen with a traditional shoutout to the new monarch, Charles III. "God Save the King," he said, and the crowd responded with those same words.

While the globe-trotting Queen Elizabeth never visited Pittsburgh – a city named for British leader William Pitt – her son, Charles, has.

He was then Prince of Wales and heir to the throne when he stood on Mount Washington on a wintery day in March 1988, hoping for a glimpse of the cloud-shrouded Golden Triangle.

When Charles visited, he was walking in the footsteps of an earlier Prince of Wales who visited Pittsburgh in 1860.

Both men were given warm receptions by local residents.

Unlike Charles, who had come to the city to speak at a conference, the 18-year-old Englishman who would become Edward VII traveled under an assumed name and title. He arrived by train in Pittsburgh as "Baron Renfrew." It was an open secret, however, that the young "baron" had been christened Albert Edward at Windsor Castle shortly after his birth in 1841 to Queen Victoria. Pittsburgh was one of his stops on an unofficial tour of North America. He was the first member of the royal family to visit the former British colonies, and the Daily Pittsburgh Gazette reported that he made a favorable impression.

When he traveled by open coach back to the city's Pennsylvania Railroad station, residents had a chance to observe him. A cavalry escort from the Duquesne Greys militia and Young's Brass Band escorted him.

"As the cortege passed along the streets, it is needless to say the Baron Renfrew was the person upon whom all attention centered," a reporter for the Gazette wrote on Oct. 3. "The ladies in particular smiled benignly on him and waved their handkerchiefs, and he invariably responded to their attentions by bowing and lifting his hat."

The newspaper's reporter then offered a left-handed compliment. "His face did not indicate a great amount of intellectuality nor the want of it," the story said. "His features were good, with a little cast of the German in them, and his person was graceful."

It has been 128 years between Pittsburgh visits by Princes of Wales. I think that means it's about time for the first-ever visit by a British king.

Len Barcousky  
Brittsburgh member and retired reporter for the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette



## King Charles III address to the UK and the Commonwealth of Nations



### PROCLAMATION OF ACCESSION OF CHARLES III

Whereas it has pleased Almighty God to call to His mercy our late Sovereign Lady Queen Elizabeth the Second of Blessed and Glorious memory, by whose Decease the Crown of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland is solely and rightfully come to the Prince Charles Philip Arthur George:

We, therefore, the Lords Spiritual and Temporal of this Realm, and members of the House of Commons, together with other members of Her late Majesty's Privy Council, and representatives of the Realms and Territories, Aldermen, and citizens of London and others, do now hereby, with one Voice and Consent of Tongue and Heart, publish and proclaim, that the Prince Charles Philip Arthur George, is now, by the Death of our late Sovereign of happy Memory, become our only lawful and rightful Liege Lord Charles the Third, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and of his other Realms and Territories, King, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith: To whom we do acknowledge all Faith and Obedience, with humble affection: beseeching God, by whom Kings and Queens do reign, to bless His Majesty with long and happy years to reign over Us.

Given at St James's Palace this tenth day of September in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-two.

**GOD SAVE THE KING**

**BRITSBURGH**

